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Monday, OCT 05, 2009

Journey Through the Arctic Refuge

This fall, follow along on a photographic expedition through Alaska's 19.2-million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, courtesy of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences' newest special exhibit, "Journey Through the Arctic Refuge," on display Saturday, October 17 through January 10. Free.

The exhibit tells the story from the perspective of a National Geographic-sponsored traverse in 2006 celebrating the 50th anniversary of a biological survey led by naturalists Olaus and Mardy Murie, which resulted in the protection of this stunning wilderness. Exhibit images — shot by John Burcham, Forrest McCarthy, George Schaller and Jon Waterman — feature wildlife, wilderness vistas, evidence of Arctic climate change, and kayaking and trekking scenes within the refuge. Additionally, the exhibit includes archival items from the 1956 survey; ptarmigan, wolf, grizzly, caribou and sheep scat; casts of wolf and grizzly tracks; whale bones; caribou antlers; cotton grass, a favorite food of caribou; an arctic ground squirrel preserved by Olaus Murie in 1956; and a continuous video loop about the refuge.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge shelters nine marine mammal species, 45 mammal species and 180 bird species, each endangered by the prospect of oil development on the northern coastal plain. For several years, Congress has narrowly resisted bills to open the refuge to oil leasing because of a flood of letters, phone calls and e-mails from millions of Americans. Inspired viewers of this exhibit also will have an opportunity to speak out on this issue; the last station provides postcards on which to write a plea for wilderness bill protection.

The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, located at 11 West Jones Street in downtown Raleigh, documents and interprets the natural history of the state through exhibits, research, collections, publications and educational programming. Visit us online at www.naturalsciences.org. Hours: Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, noon–5 p.m. General admission is free. The Museum is an agency of the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Dee Freeman, Secretary.

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02.OCT.09 Journey Through the Arctic Refuge
01.OCT.09 Symposium to Examine John Lawson's Life and Times
30.SEP.09 Geoge Washington's 1791 Tour Throught the South Lecture
21.SEP.09 Museum Lecture Reveals new Perspective on Evolution
16.SEP.09 Lecture on "George Washington's 1791 Tour Through the South" at Joel Lane Museum House
15.SEP.09 Conservationist, Raleigh Native Dale Lewis to Discuss Zambian Wildlife Efforts
14.SEP.09 N.C. Museum of History Moves Outdoors
09.SEP.09 October Programs at N.C. Museum of History
10.AUG.09 September Programs at N.C. Museum of History
06.JUL.09 Museum presents "Chocolate Making: From Bean to Bar"
24.JUN.09 What would Darwin say? Lecture looks at Madagascar biodiversity
05.JUN.09 Joel Lane Museum House Fourth of July Celebration—An Old-Fashioned Fourth
27.MAY.09 Museum presents "Hurricane Floyd: Then and Now"

27.MAY.09 Beautiful maidens roam Lush Tropical Museum ruled by Hideous Stone God!
19.MAY.09 Devil's Food or Taste of Heaven: Museum opens chocolate lecture series
16.APR.09 The Joel Lane Museum House Presents a Lecture on "Comitia Americana Medals" by Jim Jones
08.APR.09 N.C. Museum of Art Expansion Project One Year from Grand Opening
13.FEB.09 Perspective of History Series
12.FEB.09 March Programs at the N.C. Museum of History
09.FEB.09 Popular science author Carl Zimmer kicks off Darwin Lecture Series
05.FEB.09 Five Faces & Places of Raleigh's African American Community
05.FEB.09 Love in the Tropics
03.FEB.09 Circusfit with Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey
27.JAN.09 The Joel Lane Museum to do Lecture on "Comitia Americana Medals"

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